

REMARKS

Applicant is grateful for the indicated allowability of claims 5 and 6. Claims 5 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the original base claim and intervening claims as requested by the examiner and are now in condition for allowance. Claim 1, 10, and 16 have been amended. Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The examiner rejected claims 1-4, and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by MacDonald, Jr. et al. (US Pat. No. 4,561,203). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

According to the examiner, MacDonald discloses an illuminated sign containing a spare bulb storage clip behind the front wall of the bulb enclosure housing. The bulb enclosure housing is a box like bulb enclosure that is the illumination source for the opaque/reflective sign that hangs below.

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to provide that the wall located between the interior of the storage compartment and the open area at the center of the frame is opaque. Because MacDonald teaches that the housing for the stored bulb also contains the illumination source for the underlying sign, an opaque wall blocking the transmission of light from the bulb housing as claimed is structurally distinguishable over and would be contrary to the operation of the MacDonald illuminated sign. Applicant therefore contends that claims 1-4 and 7-9 are distinguishable over and not obvious in view of MacDonald.

The examiner rejected claims 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Grossman et al (US Pat. No. 6,328,460). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

According to the examiner, Grossman discloses a worklight with a light bulb storage tube affixed to or molded into the rear exterior of the housing. (See Grossman, item 90, Fig. 7.) Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection of claim 10. Claim 10 prior to this amendment recited that the cavity was formed “on the back of the frame”

and that the means for retaining the bulb was disposed in that cavity on the back of the frame. On the other hand, Grossman discloses a bulb storage tube (90) at the back of the housing of the worklight but not at the back of the frame. Grossman clearly distinguishes the frame (40) from the housing (12). According to Grossman, the frame is affixed to the housing by a hinge. (See column 2, line 13.) Therefore, the bulb storage tube (90) in Grossman cannot be within the frame. If the examiner is interpreting the housing to be the cavity, then Grossman still does not anticipate because the bulb storage tube (90) in Grossman is outside of the housing and therefore not “within the cavity.”

However, applicant has amended claim 10 to clarify that the frame and the electric lamp housing are two separate structures wherein a discrete frame is rotatably attached to an electric lamp housing. Claim 10 has been further amended to clarify that the cavity (and the means for retaining a bulb) is formed within the frame. As shown in Grossman Fig. 7, the reference discloses a light bulb storage tube (90) that is external to the frame perimeter. Grossman thus shows the bulb storage tube (90) behind the electric lamp housing and not within the frame. Applicant therefore contends that amended claim 10 and dependent claims 11-15 are distinguishable over this reference.

The examiner rejected claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grossman et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The examiner has stated that since Grossman meets all the structure limitation of the claimed invention that it would have been obvious to an ordinary skill in the art to make or use a process for providing a work light in the same manner as set forth by Grossman.

Applicant has amended claim 16 to provide a process for making a structure where a frame for holding a lens is retained to the front of the electric lamp housing. The cavity is located within the frame and the means for retaining the bulb is disposed within the cavity.

In contrast, Grossman shows a bulb storage tube (90) at the back of the electric lamp housing. Grossman does not show a means for retaining a bulb disposed in a cavity

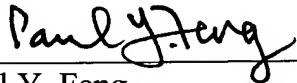
within the frame retained to the front of the lamp housing. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that claim 16 is not obvious in view of the Grossman reference.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully submitted and allowance at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By:



Paul Y. Feng

Registration No. 35,510

PYF/MEH:gbr

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201

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